

Meeting Minutes - WQPMT Meeting June 27 & 28, 2019
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
475 NE Bellevue Dr. Suite 110, Bend, Oregon
Large Conference Room

Attendees:

Kirk Cook	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Rose Kachadoorian	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Paul Measeles	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Brenda Sanchez	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Ted Bunch*	Oregon Department of Agriculture – (ODA) PARC ¹
Kevin Masterson	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
Aaron Borisenko	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
Todd Hudson	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
Audrey Hatch	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
Thomas Whittington	Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

*Participated via phone

Introduction and Roundtable

Meeting minutes from the WQPMT (Water Quality Pesticide Management Team) meeting on April 21, 2019 were approved.

Roundtable

ODEQ: Sediment data from 2018 is now available. Current use pesticides detected in sediment were chlorpyrifos, bifenthrin, and oxyfluorfen. The results are not dissimilar from the 2015 results. A majority of the samples taken were from the Clackamas PSP and specifically Noyer and Sieben Creek. Same stations were sampled as in 2015. A new station in Jackson Creek (Middle Rogue PSP) and Butte Creek (Pudding PSP) had detections. Analysis of sediment pore water indicated most pesticides detected were below Aquatic Life Benchmarks.

Rose Kachadoorian (ODA) brought up situations where nurseries are mixing bifenthrin with soil and storing it on ground. This raises significant questions about how common a practice this is and how that may be impacting sediments especially in the Clackamas PSP. ODA is looking into this situation.

Audits have been completed of PSP partners (who conduct WQ sampling). Page Evans (DEQ) reported that the groups are doing very well, some people are

¹ Pesticide Analytical and Response Center

confused by use of military time and how to deal with sample blanks. Some positive comments were that samplers were conducting decontamination procedures on boots as to not spread invasive plants (garlic). Yamhill group expressed interest in touring the ODEQ lab. Sampling partners expressed appreciation to Kevin and Kirk for data analysis. Lab getting ready to bring up triple quad mass spectrometer. This will improve ability to expand analysis and shorten lab analysis time, as well as lowering detection limits. Earlier in the year equipment breakdown resulted in some lapses in holding times.

ODF: Last week ODF held its leadership team meeting. The topic of the meeting (held in Newport) was water/drinking water and forestry. Representatives were present from the city and forest companies. Questions were asked regarding pesticides and whether there was a concern or not. The prospect of baseline study in Lincoln County was brought up again in context of the PSP program. This would be under the purview of the WQPMT, not necessarily the PSP program. A South Umpqua meeting was held in on June 6th with forestry companies and other stakeholders regarding status of pilot study. Data has been supplied to forestry landowners and they will review in context of their application to see what correlation might possibly exist.

OWEB: Coordinating monitoring, Umatilla would be interested in the data we have. Looking at areas adjacent to forest lands. Board meetings (OWEB) focus investment partnerships work starting in fall part of the requirement is a strategic plan, how can that interface with the planning efforts that the WQPMT is now requiring. On June 6th, the Oregon Plan group met to discuss rural monitoring efforts. Kevin Masterson (ODEQ) conveyed questions from Middle Deschutes PSP regarding using our monitoring data in investing in settling ponds rehabilitation and the potential of OWEB fund to support. Engineering solutions are likely a fix for the HOT chemicals being detected

ODA: ODA's enforcement team has been active in cannabis testing. What they have discovered is that many of the crops have been put on hold due to contamination. The issue of hazel nuts has been raised and the inexperience of growers in using air blast sprayers improperly has been noted. The Aminocyclopyrachlor (ACP) issue has been taking a lot of time. The concern now is what to do with cut trees around the Sister area. Grinding trees that may have chemical in it may present a problem, in what to do with them? ODA is doing testing of ground material to see what levels remain and what possible uses of sawdust etc. may exist. Questions regarding ground water contamination in areas where ACP has been used has now been raised due to trees in other use areas are showing signs impact. Still a concern (what to do, sample GW).

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)

The draft proposal document was presented to the Team and its content was discussed. Aaron Borisenko (ODEQ) raised questions regarding accountability and

clarification regarding scope of authority of the SAG. Under the current version of the document it appears that the SAG would be the decision makers. It is not clear enough who has authority. The intent of the SAG would be advisory and be limited to issues/topics that are presented to them from the WQPMT. This point needs clarification in the document. The WQPMT believes that the members should act as a single body, this is not clear in the draft supporting document. The Team agreed that Section 3 should incorporate Aarons comments. Making it clear that the WQPMT is the decision-making body.

Additional comments were made regarding the scope of the SAG. It was agreed that it was necessary to limit scope of the SAG to issues related to the PSP program only. Later on (depending on the functionality of the SAG) the issues/topics related to the Pesticide Management Plan could be considered.

Make the statement in the document that initially the focus will be on PSP then later expand to issues on the Pesticide Management Plan. For now the following areas could be the focus of the SAG engagement with the WQPMT

- Monitoring Results (I)
- Status of Management Measures (I and A)
- Modifications to statewide pesticide of Concern (I and A)
- Results of Region 10 Meeting (I and A)
- Additions and Subtractions to PSP areas (Review process how we make decisions) (I and A)
- Input on funding decisions (A)
- EJ and Human Health
- Setting the table for GW/HH

EJ concerns do not necessarily intersect with aquatic life issues. They are focused on groundwater and human health concerns. The supporting documentation for the WQPMT and obtaining stable funding for the PSP Program includes addressing human health. How to fold this into the PSP program as it is not currently a major aspect of the PSP Program.

It was agreed that based on the comments received, that the proposing document would be revised and sent out to members for comment. The target for getting it in to the hands of respective management would be middle to late August

Oregon State University (PSEP)

During the April meeting of the WQPMT it was agreed that a contract should be pursued with OSU-PSEP to develop an online WQ/Pesticide education module. Also, it was agreed that development of a “ready to go” presentation for trainers and PSP partners would be highly desirable. In the upcoming biennium the WQPMT agreed that a proposal from OSU would be received very favorably and such a proposal

would be a contract and not be a competitive grant. Key elements of the project would be

Online Module

Module for In-person Re-Cert talks

Train the Trainers

Suggestions for establishment of content could include:

- a) Label language as it applies to environmental hazards (difference between mandatory and precautionary/advisory label language)
- b) Basic concept of hydrologic cycle (how water moves surface/ground)
- c) Soil properties (permeability, porosity) What make some soils riskier than others
- d) Pesticide properties (1/2 life, toxicity, etc.) again this will be at a fairly basic level
- e) WQ data evaluation- what does monitoring show?
- f) Best management practices for application (this would also cover effects of manmade structures such as impermeable surfaces, drift and runoff, proper disposal to avoid contamination, and rinsate issues)
- g) Benchmarks how are they used and what do they mean
- h) Overview of the PSP program

Contact will be made with OSU to develop a proposal that the WQPMT will review and if acceptable approve for funding.

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)

The WQPMT discussed the concept of having a diverse *WQPMT Stakeholder Advisory Group Proposal (SAG)* to provide high-level advice to the WQPMT. It was made clear to all the WPMT members that this group will not be creating policy. The WQPMT members were also reminded (during this conversation) that it does not have the authority to create policy

A thorough discussion was held regarding significant aspects of the proposal. One of the main issues related to the proposed process was how issues are brought to the WQPMT and what would be the role of the SAG. One issue that was brought forward immediately was communication. One of the purposes of the SAG would be to better the lines of communication between stakeholder and the WQPMT. One suggestion was that the WQPMT meeting minutes be posted on the website so that anyone can see the topics and issues being discussed by the WQPMT and that may eventually be brought to the SAG for input. It was felt that this would also help curb the periodic expression of concern that some stakeholders have been relaying to some member agencies.

It was agreed upon that the SAG would meet no more than twice a year and that a facilitator be used (at least for the initial few meetings). Given the level of interest in this subject the WQPMT agreed that additional information would be included into the draft *WQPMT Stakeholder Advisory Group Proposal* during the next couple of months so that the group would have a final draft proposal ready to submit to respective agency management two weeks following end of the upcoming Bend meeting. Kirk will provide no more than two revised versions of the proposal during the next month for group review and comment.

Pesticides of Concern

During the past several months, DEQ and ODA have been working on a revised process, including the matrix used to determine what is and what is not a statewide Pesticide of Concern (this is a requirement of the current ODA cooperative agreement between ODA and EPA). The current process designates several compounds that are no longer in use or that have been adequately addressed by the PSP program and are no longer detected in samples collected at the PSP monitoring locations. This updated process has been developed with input from Washington and Idaho during the September 2018 EPA Region 10 water quality meeting in Coeur de Alene, ID .

The revised process focuses on water quality data collected only in the last three years thereby making designation of a pesticide of concern more relevant to current conditions. The previous method incorporated water quality data collected throughout the entirety of the program. Included in this update methodology is a two-tiered process. The matrix will be used on a watershed by watershed basis to assist in the prioritization process of determining which pesticide should receive the most attention from a corrective standpoint in each watershed. Those results will then be assessed by the WQPMT and if a pesticide is considered a high concern in 30% or more of the currently active PSP areas it will be designated a statewide Pesticide of Concern (or a pesticide of High Level of Concern).

This methodology is currently being utilized by several PSP areas to help in the development of their Strategic Plan. Based on this fact and given that the process has been reviewed by other Region 10 states as technically valid, the WQPMT moved to adopt this work as the new methodology from this point forward.

Under the new methodology, the 2018 statewide pesticides ratings are:

Pesticides of Concern (POC)
/High Level of Concern

Chlorpyrifos
Diazinon
Dimethenamid
Diuron

Pesticides of Interest (POI)
/Moderate Level of Concern

2,6-dichlorobenzamide
AMPA
Atrazine
Carbaryl Dimethoate

Imidacloprid
Oxyfluorfen

Deisopropylatrazine
Glyphosate
Metsulfuron methyl
Propiconazole
Simazine
Sulfometuron-methyl

The WQPMT wishes to check in with Washington and Idaho to determine where they are in regards with this methodology prior to posting this to the ODA website. In any event the modifications will be posted by June 1st.

Review of USGS 2015 WQ Data

DEQ walked through the 2015 pesticide water quality data recently received from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). A certain amount of data manipulation was necessary to get the data into from that was understandable and useable. Several key points were discussed.

- a) The USGS monitors for more pesticides than OR currently monitors. These data can provide some guidance in what new compounds should be considered to add to the current list.
- b) The USGS monitored for one year and a defined period (six months) of that year.
- c) There appear to be some differences in the type of samples that are analyzed (filtered vs unfiltered) that would make a direct comparison to OR data somewhat problematic.
- d) Differences in detection levels needs to be further examined.
- e) Some comparison between PSP and USGS data in the same watershed (or, in some cases, the same streams and monitoring sites) is useful for the WQPMT.
- f) There is a significant amount of data collected in urban areas and non-PSP watersheds that could supplement PSP data.
- g) Need further evaluation before these data could be incorporated into the PSP Database.

DEQ will be taking a closer look at the data set and if necessary circle around back to the WQPMT during the June 27-28th meeting.

Next Meeting

The WQPMT agreed to schedule the next meeting in Bend, OR on June 27th and 28th. This will be a 2-day meeting. Tentatively topics for discussion and action will be:

- a) Finalization of recommendation package for SAG
- b) Discussions of potential impact of HB 3058
- c) Review OSU products for Education and Outreach
- d) Develop potential waste pesticide collection schedule

- e) Discuss technical assistance grants process for Fiscal Year 2020-12
- f) Discuss drinking water implications to PSP program